

## **VLA FACSIMILE (212) 805-7924**

Honorable Sidney H. Stein United States District Court Southern District of New York Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street, Room 1010 New York, New York 10007-1312

> Re: SEA CHALLENGER SHIPHOLDINGS S.A. v. **AGRITRADE** INTERNATIONAL (PTE) L'I'D. 07 cv 3688 (SIIS) - SDNY

Dear Judge Stein,

" ALSO AUMITTED IN LOUISIANA

At the request of Ms. Blakely of your Chambers, we report concerning the status of this Rule B maritime attachment action.

This matter was commenced with the filing of a Verified Complaint on May 9, 2007 and on the same day Your Honor granted Plaintiff's application to attach approximately \$136,000 of Defendant's funds as security for claims being pursued in London arbitration. The Process of Maritime Attachment and Garnishment was served on a number of banks and the full amount of security permitted by this Court's Order was restrained in May of this year. No appearance has been filed on behalf of Defendant in response to notice of the restraint having been provided pursuant to Local Rule B.2. Nor has Defendant responded to the request to waive formal service under Rule 4(f). We are presently tasking steps to have the Defendant, located in Singapore, served formally.

In the meantime, the arbitration continues apace with claims submissions having been served upon Desendant's Singapore attorneys. It is estimated that it will be approximately 9-12 months before an arbitration award is issued.

Hon. Sidney H. Stein October 29, 2007 Page 2

We respectfully suggest that the Court place this matter on its suspense docket in view of the foregoing pending conclusion of the arbitration or the occurrence of other circumstances requiring the Court's intervention.

We thank the Court for its courtesy and attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

FREEHILL HOGAN & MAHAR LLP

SUDNEY H. STEIN U.S.D.J.

Michael E. Unger

MEU/mc